



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

7. — *History of Federal Government, from the Foundation of the Achaian League to the Disruption of the United States.* By EDWARD A. FREEMAN, M. A., late Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford. Vol. I. *General Introduction. — History of the Greek Federations.* London and Cambridge: Macmillan & Co. 1863. 8vo. pp. xl. and 721.

IN the Preface to this History, Mr. Freeman takes especial pains to inform his readers that his inquiries into the nature and tendency of federal institutions were not suggested by any of the recent occurrences in this country. "I trust," he writes, "that no one will think that the present work owes its origin to the excitement of the War of Secession in America. It is the first instalment of a scheme formed long ago, and it represents the thought and reading of more than ten years." Nevertheless, there is throughout this volume a constant reference to American affairs; and the special features of our written Constitution are everywhere used to illustrate the general characteristics of federal government, or to explain the nature and effect of similar provisions in the treaties defining the powers and obligations of the Grecian Leagues. The portion now published is a mere fragment of what promises to be a very voluminous History, and the full execution of the author's design will apparently require three or four large volumes. In them he purposes to write the political history of the Achaian League, of the Swiss Cantons, of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands, and of the United States of America. The first volume includes a "General Introduction," and an examination of the "Characteristics of Federal Government as compared with other Political Systems," filling in the aggregate a hundred and twenty-two pages, together with brief notices of the minor confederations of ancient Greece, an elaborate account of the origin and constitution of the Achaian and Ætolian Leagues, and a history of Federal Greece from the foundation of the Achaian League to its dissolution. Mr. Freeman is a sturdy partisan of the federal system, and maintains that the secession of the so-called Confederate States, "so far from proving anything against Federalism in the abstract, does not even prove anything against the American Union as it came forth from the hands of its founders," while he constantly assumes that it is a permanent disruption.

"The Federal system," he writes, "has at least saved that vast continent for nearly three generations from the mutual slaughter of men of the same race and speech, from the sight of ravished provinces and of cities taken by storm. During all these years, the amount of union between the several States, the amount of independence retained by each State, has been found to be exactly that amount which answered the required purpose. If the system has broken down at last, we may be sure that any other system would have broken down much sooner. And, after all, it has only broken down very

partially. One Federation has been divided into two, just as one Kingdom has often been divided into two; but neither of the powers thus formed has thought of setting up anything but a Federal system as the form of its own internal constitution."

For the Emperor Napoleon III. Mr. Freeman has a strong personal dislike, and he flings much merited scorn on that sovereign's panacea of universal suffrage; but with the exception of frequent references to American and French politics, he abstains in general from any direct discussion of contemporary affairs. As an historian he exhibits an ample knowledge of his subject, much critical acuteness, and a fair and candid temper. If he cannot take rank with Grote and Thirlwall, it must be conceded, at least, that he has made an important contribution to the later history of Greece. His style, though occasionally redundant, is clear and forceful; and in his purely narrative chapters it is as animated as the nature of the subject permits.

8. — *A Dialogue on the Best Form of Government.* By the RIGHT HONORABLE SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS, Bart., M. P. London: Parker, Son, and Bourn. 1863. Small 8vo. pp. vii. and 117.

THE well-earned reputation which the late Sir G. C. Lewis had acquired as one of the ablest statesmen in England, gave added weight and authority to any publication bearing his name on its title-page, or exhibiting internal evidence that he was its author; and in the case of this Dialogue, as in that of most of the acknowledged productions of his prolific pen, we are scarcely less attracted to the volume by the interest of the theme, than by the fame of the writer. The object which he proposed to himself in his last work is a very simple and unambitious one, and is limited to the presentation of "a compact statement of the principal arguments for and against each form of government" now existing. For this purpose he brings together three representative men, Monarchicus, Aristocraticus, and Democraticus, at the house of a common friend, Crito, where they severally adduce the arguments by which each would recommend his own favorite system, or assail those of the other two principal interlocutors. These arguments are very fairly stated, though they do not always cover the whole ground; and the writer, we think, may justly claim that he has not knowingly attributed to any of the speakers "merely logical fallacies, — fallacies which turn upon verbal or formal sophisms, and which are absolutely destitute of proving force." To this claim our author adds, that he does not "identify himself with any one of the interlocutors."